

REMARKS

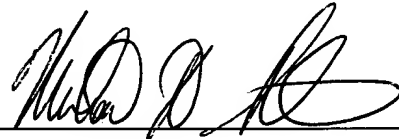
In accordance with the foregoing, the specification has been amended in several instances to improve form. Claims 1 through 46 are pending and claims 20 and 30 have been amended to improve form. No new matter has been presented in this Preliminary Amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our deposit account number 19-3935.

Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,  
STAAS & HALSEYLLP



\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Stein  
Registration No. 37,240

Dated 11/22/00

700 Eleventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500